

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT		25X1
SUBJECT	Cotton Spinning Mills	DATE DISTR.	18 February 1955	
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PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES		25X1

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The Ernst Thalmann cotton spinning mill in Sofia¹ has the following machinery, all of German "Textima" manufacture:

- a. Eight combing machines;
- b. Twelve stretching machines;
- c. Eight spindles for fly frames; and
- d. Forty spinning machines (Ringmaschinen) with 600 spindles each (three workers serve two machines).

During an 8-hour shift the spindles are changed from two and one-half to four times, depending on the thickness of the yarn.

2. The mill employs approximately 450 workers, the majority of whom are women, in three shifts. Salaries are very low; a beginner receives about 11 leva per day, while a senior woman worker earns about 18 to 20 leva per day. Prior to October 1954 the workers' fares were refunded by the mill, but this practice has stopped. It is reported that the refunding of fares has been discontinued in all works and enterprises.
3. Since the beginning of October 1954, premiums of up to 25 percent of the basic salary have been paid to workers for exceeding the planned output. Premiums exceeding 25 percent are not paid to the workers, but go into the plant fund. Out of this fund measures "for the benefit of all" are paid. The morale of the workers is very low, and any request for larger output is met with open laughter and refusal.
4. The Maritsa plant in Plovdiv² also has "Textima" machinery, with 45,000 spindles.

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(NOTE: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

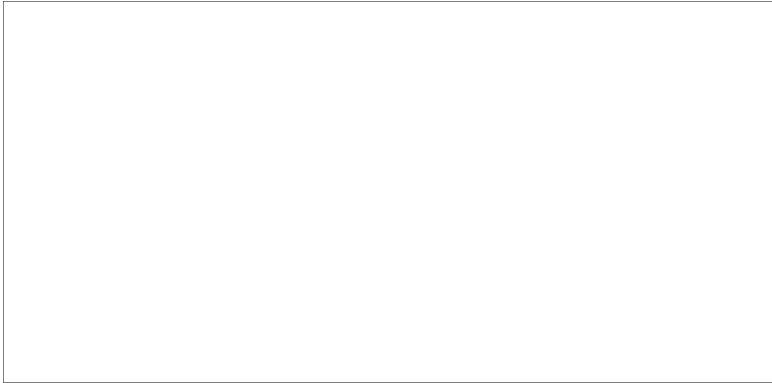
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5. A cotton spinning mill with 60,000 spindles is under construction in Plovdiv.
The machines have already arrived from East Germany.



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